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2002 Commencement - 26th Annual Law Center Commencement

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COMMONS
JOURNAL

2002



THE PRESIDENT, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, ADMINISTRATION,
AND STAFF CONGRATULATE YOU ON THIS VERY SPECIAL
DAY. ■ TODAY'S COMMENCEMENT EXERCISE IS THE
CULMINATION OF YOUR HARD WORK AND
INTELLECTUAL EFFORT, WHICH SUCH SHOULD BE DULY
NOTED AND PUBLICLY RECOGNIZED. ■ MAY ALL YOUR
DREAMS AND WISHES BRING FORTH A PROSPEROUS
FUTURE. ■ CONGRATULATIONS!

WELCOME

Nova Southeastern University extends a cordial welcome to each person attending this 26th Annual Law Center Commencement, part of the 33rd annual commencement exercises of the university. We are here to celebrate the accomplishments of the degree candidates and to extend to them the congratulations of their friends and relatives, as well as those of the university's students, faculty and staff members, and supporters.

NATIONAL CAR RENTAL CENTER

2555 Northwest 137th Way
Sunrise, Florida
Sunday, the Fifth of May
Two Thousand Two

THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Marshal
Members of the Faculty
Board of Governors
Trustees
Distinguished Guests
Commencement Officials
Candidates for the Juris Doctor Degree

ORDER OF EXERCISES

Processional: Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1	Elgar
Convening the 33rd Commencement	David H. Rush
	Member, Board of Trustees
Presiding Officer	Ray Ferrero, Jr.
	President, Nova Southeastern University
<i>America, the Beautiful</i>	Bates/Ward

O beautiful for spacious skies,
 For amber waves of grain,
 For purple mountain majesties
 Above the fruited plain!
 America! America!
 God shed His grace on thee,
 And crown thy good with brotherhood
 From sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for pilgrim feet,
 Whose stern, impassioned stress,
 A thoroughfare for freedom beat
 Across the wilderness!
 America! America!
 God mend thine every flaw,
 Confirm thy soul in self-control
 Thy liberty in law!

Welcome	Ray Ferrero, Jr.
Dean's Remarks.....	Joseph D. Harbaugh
	Dean, Shepard Broad Law Center
Introduction of Student Speaker	Joseph D. Harbaugh
Student Speaker	Rachel Ivy Turner
Introduction of Faculty Speaker	Joseph D. Harbaugh
Faculty Speaker	Bruce S. Rogow
	Professor of Law
Introduction of the Commencement Speaker.....	Joseph D. Harbaugh
Commencement Address	Chesterfield Smith, Senior Partner, Holland and Knight
	Former President of the American Bar Association
Conferring of Degrees	Ray Ferrero, Jr.
Introduction of Degree Candidates	Patricia C. Jason
	Associate Dean for Student and Administrative Affairs, Shepard Broad Law Center
Hooding Committee	The Honorable Rex J. Ford, United States Immigration Court
	Elizabeth Welch
	Director of Alumni Relations and Development, Shepard Broad Law Center
Conferring of Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws on Chesterfield Smith	Ray Ferrero, Jr.
Welcome from Alumni Association	Steven M. Gerson, Law '94
Recessional: March	Holst

We request that the audience stand during the Processional and Recessional

JURIS DOCTOR CANDIDATES
NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY SHEPARD BROAD LAW CENTER
Presented by Dean Joseph D. Harbaugh

GENA LAUREN ABRAMOWITZ
 Weston, Florida

SHAWN E. ABRELL
 Bloomington, Indiana

TERESSA GABRIELLA ACCURSO
 Fort Lauderdale, Florida

MARJORIE DEL CARMEN
 ACEVEDO
 Miami Lakes, Florida

JASON SCOTT ACKERMAN
 Boca Raton, Florida

MADELINE M. ACOSTA
 Hialeah, Florida

SCOTT CHRISTOPHER ADAMS
 Highlands, New Jersey
*Magna Cum Laude**

ROTEM ADAR
 Hallandale, Florida

JEFFREY ALAN ADELMAN
 Coral Springs, Florida

VICTORIA HILL ADKINS
 Fort Pierce, Florida

SHEILA AHADPOUR
 Rockville, Maryland

PATRICIA DENISE ALLEN
 Vero Beach, Florida
*Cum Laude**

THAÏS MARIA ALVAREZ
 Miami, Florida
*Cum Laude**

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 Miami, Florida

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 Coral Springs, Florida

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 Sanibel, Florida

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 Hallandale, Florida

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 BATTAGLINO
 Davie, Florida

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 Plantation, Florida
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 Fort Myers, Florida

ZASCHA BLANCO
 Miami, Florida
Magna Cum Laude

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 Boynton Beach, Florida
Summa Cum Laude

HARVEY L. BROWN, JR.
 Delray Beach, Florida

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 West Palm Beach, Florida
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 Deerfield Beach, Florida
Cum Laude

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 Miami, Florida

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 Hollywood, Florida

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Jacksonville, Florida

IVONNE CUESTA
Miami, Florida

CARMEN J. CUETOS
Coral Springs, Florida

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Davie, Florida

LAKEISHA NYCOL DANIELS
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

ANASTASIA DAVIS
Davie, Florida
Cum Laude

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Fort Lauderdale, Florida

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Tampa, Florida
J.D./M.B.A.

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Miramar, Florida

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Plantation, Florida
*Cum Laude**

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Miami Beach, Florida

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Davie, Florida

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Mohnton, Pennsylvania

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Delray Beach, Florida

ROBERT DORN
Weston, Florida
Magna Cum Laude

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Fort Lauderdale, Florida

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Miami, Florida

AARON DURALL
Coral Springs, Florida

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Fort Wayne, Indiana

MARK DAVID EARLES
Lowestoft, England
*Summa Cum Laude**

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Davie, Florida

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Plantation, Florida

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Smithtown, New York

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EVANS
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Miami, Florida

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*Cum Laude**

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FUGETT-MULLEN
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Miramar, Florida

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Miami, Florida

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Key West, Florida

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Bradenton, Florida

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Boca Raton, Florida

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Davie, Florida

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Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

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Indianapolis, Florida

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Virginia Beach, Virginia
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Buffalo, New York
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Boynton Beach, Florida
Cum Laude

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Dunedin, Florida

GRANT NOAH GRAND
Palm City, Florida

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Palm City, Florida

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Wellington, Florida
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West Bloomfield, Michigan

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Palm Bay, Florida

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Tallahassee, Florida

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Pembroke Pines, Florida
*Cum Laude**

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Coral Springs, Florida

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Longwood, Florida

KORY P. HILL
Denville, New Jersey

MICHELLE LEA HILL
Naples, Florida

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Fort Lauderdale, Florida

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Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

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Davie, Florida

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Perry, Georgia

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Fort Lauderdale, Florida
*Cum Laude**

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Miami, Florida

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Orlando, Florida

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Wauchula, Florida
*Magna Cum Laude**

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Miami, Florida

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Miami, Florida

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Davie, Florida

JESSICA LORAYN KAUFMAN
Babylon, New York

MICHAEL LANCE KEIBER
Sebring, Florida

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Plantation, Florida

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West Palm Beach, Florida

MARTIN DAVID KIAR
Davie, Florida
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Carmel Valley, California

CHRISTINA MARIE KITTERMANN
Davie, Florida

MICHAEL DAVID KLEVENS
Tamarac, Florida
Cum Laude

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Hollywood, Florida

MATTHEW PHILLIP KONECKY
Coal Valley, Illinois
*Cum Laude**

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Ridgefield, New Jersey

JOHN KENNETH KREIMEYER
Fort Lauderdale, Florida
J.D./M.Acc.

SANDRA ELIZABETH
KRUMBEIN
North Miami Beach, Florida
*Summa Cum Laude**

DENZLE GARFIELD LATTY
Montego Bay, Jamaica

RYAN MICHAEL LAYTON
Lake Worth, Florida

LASHAWN LEGAIR
Pembroke Pines, Florida

MANDY GINA LEIGH
Boca Raton, Florida

HAL JORDAN LEITMAN
Pembroke Pines, Florida

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Davie, Florida

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Marietta, Georgia

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LESTER
Boynton Beach, Florida

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Plantation, Florida

BIANCA LISTON
Miami, Florida

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Plantation, Florida

GINO JOHN LOMBARDI
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Tamarac, Florida

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Vero Beach, Florida

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Palm Beach Gardens, Florida

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J.D./M.B.A.

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Jacksonville, Florida

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Pembroke Pines, Florida

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Miramar, Florida
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Miramar, Florida

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Royal Palm Beach, Florida

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Fort Lauderdale, Florida
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Apollo Beach, Florida

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MCMENAMIN, JR.
New Port Richey, Florida

SHELDON D. MCMULLEN
Tampa, Florida

MARIBEL CATALINA
MEZQUITA
Lake Clark Shores, Florida

ROBERT M. MILLER
Mohegan Lake, New York

SERRI E. MILLER
Bemidji, Minnesota
*Summa Cum Laude**

TERRANCE ALEXANDER
MILLIGAN
El Centro, California

MICHAEL C. MINARDI
Londonderry, New Hampshire
*Summa Cum Laude**

DAVID MOLOT
Kew Gardens, New York

KAREN M. MONTAS-COLEMAN
Royal Palm Beach, Florida

JASON DANIEL MONTES
Tampa, Florida

VENCIL WAYNE MOORE
Cocoa, Florida

ANAT MORE
Sunny Isles Beach, Florida

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Weston, Florida

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MUCIK-RAMIREZ
Boca Raton, Florida

ELISA DECATOR NOCITO, M.D.
Lake Worth, Florida

SHANNON HALEY O'BRIEN
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

CINDY LILYANNA OLEA
Boca Raton, Florida

STEPHEN P. ORCHARD
Coral Springs, Florida

BARTOSZ ADAM OSTRZENSKI
Madeira Beach, Florida

JOHN KINGRY OVERCHUCK
Orlando, Florida

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Orlando, Florida
*Summa Cum Laude**

JONATHAN MICHAEL PALMA
Holiday, Florida

TOM F. PALMIERO
Mahopac, New York

RACHEL PARENZUELA
North Miami Beach, Florida

RONALD EMILIO PEREIRA
Miami, Florida

CAROLINE VASILIKI PERLEGAS
Pembroke Pines, Florida

NATALIE FAITH PFISTER
Lakeland, Florida

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Coral Springs, Florida

CHARLES W. POWER, JR.
Plantation, Florida

SHLOMI PRESSER
Coral Springs, Florida

REBECCA JUNE PROCTOR
Plantation, Florida

JASMINE GLADYS PROSPER
North Miami, Florida

HEATHER LYNN RAVICH
Aventura, Florida

CATHERINE ANN RIGGINS
Carol City, Florida

J. SKYLER RIORDAN
Weston, Florida

LISA ANN ROBINSON
Boca Raton, Florida
*Cum Laude**

KELLY JENNIFER ROMANO
Southington, Connecticut
*Magna Cum Laude**

HECTOR ADRIAN ROMERO
Miami, Florida

TERESA MARIA ROQUE
Miami, Florida

STACEY DARA ROSENTHAL
Plainview, New York

TODD SCOT ROTH
Parkland, Florida

ERIN ALAYNE ROWBOTHAM
Lakeland, Florida

JEFFREY JOSEPH SAIDENSTAT
Hollywood, Florida

WILLIAM LEWIS SAKA
Miami Beach, Florida

PATRIZIA MARIA SALVAGGIO
Bayside, New York
J.D./M.B.A.

LOURDES MARIA
SANCHEZ- BARCIA
Miami, Florida

JESSICA SANTIAGO
Miami Lakes, Florida

DAWN MARIE SAUCIER
Plantation, Florida
*Cum Laude**

MAYA SEMAAN
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

PHILLIP R. SEMENICK
Fort Lauderdale, Florida
*Cum Laude**

LARA S. SHAH
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

DAVID IRVING SHINER
Coral Springs, Florida

RICHARD SIERRA
Cooper City, Florida

KAREN D. SLATER
Miami, Florida
*Cum Laude**

MEISHA KAREEN SMITH
Miramar, Florida
*Cum Laude**

SCOTT LINDEN SMITH
Augusta, Georgia

CYNTHIA J. SODERLUND
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

SORRAYA M. SOLAGES
Royal Palm Beach, Florida

ALICE ELIZABETH SOLOMON
Sunny Isles Beach, Florida

NOËLLE GUYLÈNE SOMMER
Washington, District of Columbia
and Port-au-Prince, Haiti

EDWARD CARL SONNENSCHIN
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

FRANCESCO SOTO
Miami, Florida

PEDRO P. SOTOLONGO
Miami, Florida

RACHEL LEE SPEARMAN
East Northport, New York

JEFFREY ELIOT SPERO
Boca Raton, Florida

MATTHEW THOMAS STAAB
Weston, Florida
*Cum Laude**

DANIEL J. STALLONE
Pembroke Pines, Florida

JAMI LEE STEINACKER
Cooper City, Florida
*Cum Laude**

JASON LEE STEINMAN
Weston, Florida

RHONDA MICHELE STERNBERG
Tamarac, Florida
Cum Laude

WILMA DUFFEY STEVENSON
Lauderhill, Florida
*Cum Laude**

MICHELLE IVY STORCH
Weston, Florida

EUGENE JOSEPH STRASSER
Coral Springs, Florida

JAIME ANNE STRICKLIN
Boca Raton, Florida

INGRID S. SUAREZ
Hialeah Gardens, Florida

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Miami, Florida

ELIANA ALYSE SUGARMAN
Coral Gables, Florida
*Cum Laude**

ERIN M. TALASNIK
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ORLEE TAMIR
Miami, Florida

PAIGE COLTON TEDESCO
Vero Beach, Florida

EBONY JOY TERRELL
Washington, District of Columbia

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Arlington, Texas

JOANNE TINSLEY
Kissimmee, Florida

ANGELA SHARON TORO
Miramar, Florida

KENNETH ERIC TRENT
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

MARISOL T. TRIANA
Miami, Florida

RACHEL IVY TURNER
East Providence, Rhode Island
*Cum Laude**

ERIK ULANO
Stuart, Florida

MARIANO ANTONIO VA
Hollywood, Florida

LEA W. VANDERGRIFT
Sunrise, Florida

NICOLE SPRAGUE VANDEVER
Coral Springs, Florida

LORI RAYMELLE VAUGHAN
Jupiter, Florida

DENISE LYNN VENTIMIGLIA
Cooper City, Florida
Magna Cum Laude

LEONARD SILVIO VILLAFRANCO
Coral Springs, Florida

TERRY ALAN WELLONS
Davie, Florida

DENISE A. WELTER
Pembroke Pines, Florida

JENNIFER S. WHITE
Coral Springs, Florida

DEBORAH J. WILLIAMS
Athens, Georgia

DIANA ALTHEA HO-YEN
WILLIAMS
Miramar, Florida

TANIA MARIA WILLIAMS
Orlando, Florida
*Magna Cum Laude**

MARGARET WILSON
Davie, Florida

BASEL ASSAD ZACUR
Davie, Florida

CORY SETH ZADANOSKY
Coral Springs, Florida

LARISSA K. ZAGUSTIN
Delray Beach, Florida
*Magna Cum Laude**

CHRISTOPHER ROBERT ZAPALSKI
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

PATSY ANN ZIMMERMAN
Lighthouse Point, Florida
*Summa Cum Laude**

**Potential honors based upon a
cumulative grade point average after
completion of the fall 2001 semester.*

2002 Graduation Honors

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Scholarship	Mary Elizabeth Henderson
<i>Awarded to a student exhibiting outstanding academic abilities in the area of matrimonial and family law.</i>	
American Bankruptcy Institute Award	Jonathan L. Cooley
<i>Awarded to a student exhibiting outstanding academic abilities in the area of bankruptcy law.</i>	
Florida Bar City, County, and Local Government Section Scholarship	Daniel J. Stallone
<i>Awarded to a student exhibiting outstanding academic abilities in the area of city, county, and local government law.</i>	
Florida Bar Labor and Employment Law Scholarship	Robert Dorn
<i>Awarded to a student exhibiting outstanding academic abilities in the area of labor and employment law.</i>	
Florida Bar Tax Section Scholarship	Thais Maria Alvarez
<i>Awarded to a student exhibiting outstanding academic abilities in the area of tax law.</i>	
Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers Award	Christina Kontogiannis
<i>Awarded to a student who has demonstrated exceptional ability, interest and dedication in the defense of those accused of crimes.</i>	
Krupnick & Campbell Award	Madeline M. Acosta
<i>Awarded to a student who has demonstrated exceptional skills in the area of trial advocacy.</i>	
The National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Alexandra Espinosa
<i>Awarded to a student who has exhibited academic achievement and a potential to contribute to the advancement of women in society.</i>	
West Publishing Company Award	Scott Christopher Adams
<i>Awarded to the students who have made the most significant contributions to overall legal scholarship.</i>	Serri E. Miller Sorraya M. Solages

UNIVERSITY AWARDS

Nova Southeastern University Distinguished Law Student Achievement Award	Charles W. Power, Jr.
<i>Awarded to a law student demonstrating outstanding academic achievement and a commitment to the Law Center community.</i>	
Nova Southeastern University Graduate Club of the Year Award	Hispanic Law Student Association
<i>Awarded to a campus organization demonstrating outstanding service and commitment to the community.</i>	Ingrid S. Suarez, President

ADVOCACY HONORS

Order of the Barrister

Awarded to students displaying excellence in advocacy while participating in intramural and interscholastic trial or moot court competitions.

Scott Christopher Adams
Chadley Worth Clements
Michelle Lea Hill

Robindra Nath Khanal
Daniel Aaron Palamountain
Tania Maria Williams

Moot Court Society

Students are chosen to become members based upon their skills in appellate advocacy. Moot Court Society members are distinguished by a purple/silver tassel on the mortarboard.

Executive Board

Scott Christopher Adams, Chief Advocate
Ebony Joy Terrell, Competitions Coordinator

Board of Editors

Paul L. Hammond, 2000-2001
Daniel Aaron Palamountain, 2000-2001

Jonathan Alan Beckerman
Harvey L. Brown, Jr.
Randall Dale Burks
Mark David Earles
Michelle Lea Hill
Shannon L. Karan

Jessica Lorayn Kaufman
Michael David Klevens
Michelle Lee Klymko
Robert Michael Lewis
Serri E. Miller
Karen M. Montas-Coleman

Stephen P. Orchard
Patrizia Maria Salvaggio
Angela Sharon Toro
Tania Maria Williams

Moot Court Competition Winners

Feinrider Intramural First Year Moot Court Competition 1999-2000

Daniel Aaron Palamountain
Michael David Klevens

Feinrider Intramural Second Year Moot Court Competition 2000-2001

Tania Maria Williams

American Trial Lawyers Association

Organization members advance the student's trial advocacy, client counseling, and negotiation skills.

Officers

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Sandra Nicole Bates, Co-Vice President
Anastasia Davis, Co-Vice President
Franchesco Soto, Board Member

Madeline M. Acosta, Board Member
Brian Paul Edelson, Board Member
Meisha Kareen Smith, Board Member
Rebecca June Proctor, Board Member

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Zascha Blanco
Timothy Michael Bunsie
Claudine Marie Burke

Deanna Christine Camp
Chadley Worth Clements
Michael J. Drahos
Karen A. Droskoski
Crystal L. Eiffert
Jason Scott Greenberg

Darrin Blake Gursky
Steven Ashraf Halim
Michelle Lea Hill
Robindra Nath Khanal
Joshua James Markham
Daniel Aaron Palamountain
Natalie Faith Pfister

American Trial Lawyers Association Competition Winners
Best Oral Advocate Atlanta Trial Competition 2001

Robindra Nath Khanal

PUBLIC SERVICE AND BAR FELLOWSHIPS

Public Service Summer Fellowships

Students selected based on work with public service organizations.

Melissa Lynn Eggers
Carrah Megan Malone
Karen M. Montas-Coleman
Ingrid S. Suarez

Feinrider Scholarship Fund

Students selected based on service to a human rights organization.

Melissa Lynn Eggers
Rachel Parenuela
Ingrid S. Suarez

National Association for Public Interest Law Fellowships

Students selected based on service to the public interest law community.

Brian Robert Dolan	Ingrid S. Suarez
Shannon Haley O'Brien	Eliana Alyse Sugarman
Heather Lynn Ravich	Margaret Wilson
Michelle Ivy Storch	

Florida Bar Foundation Mediation Public Service Fellows

These students provide pro bono mediation services and related research activities to assist courts, families, the U.S. Equal Opportunity Commission, and the U.S. Postal Service. Students mediate juvenile diversionary, restitution, and employment discrimination cases.

Margaret Payne Fogg
Catherine Ann Riggins
Edward Carl Sonnenschein

Florida Bar Foundation Disability Public Service Fellows

These students have provided technical legal assistance to public interest and pro bono attorneys handling disability and children's rights cases. They have completed a disability law course and provided a minimum of 240 hours of technical legal assistance to Florida lawyers.

Brian Robert Dolan
Kristen Lee Doleva
Paul L. Hammond
Anne Gardner Helfant

Matthew Glen Lerner
Shannon Haley O'Brien
Jonathan Michael Palma
Stacey Dara Rosenthal

Erin Alayne Rowbotham
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Rachel Ivy Turner

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ACADEMIC NOTES

The caps, gowns, and hoods of the academic procession date back to the Middle Ages, when they were common dress for scholars. Monks and students wore them to keep warm in the damp and drafty 12th century castles and halls of learning.

The bachelor's gown has a pleated front and long, pointed sleeves. The master's gown, which may be worn open, is distinguished by its long, square sleeves, closed at the end and slit near the elbow to permit the forearms to come through. The doctor's gown, which also may be worn open, is trimmed with velvet panels down the front, with three velvet bars on its bell-shaped sleeves. The hood is the key to the costume. With a tassel of the same material as the gown, it is lined in silk with a color or colors of the institution conferring the degree. The length of the hood indicates the degree: four feet for the doctor; three-and-a-half feet for the master; and three feet for the bachelor. The hood is sometimes omitted on the bachelor's gown. The width of the velvet border also indicates the degree. The widest border belongs to the doctor's gown.

The color of the hood's border indicates the field of learning to which the degree pertains. The doctor's hood may bear a single chevron on the lining. Two narrow chevrons indicate a bachelor, while the master's hood may have a single chevron or be divided equally in two colors.

The various fields of learning are indicated by color as follows: arts, letters, humanities-white; commerce and accountancy-drab; economics-copper; education or pedagogy-light blue; engineering-orange; fine arts, including architecture-brown; law-purple; library science-lemon; medicine-green; philosophy-dark blue; science-golden yellow.

During the processional, candidates for the bachelor's degree wear the tassels of their mortarboard on their right. Upon receiving the diplomas, they move the tassels to the left. Candidates for all other degrees wear the tassels on the left.

UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT

Nova Southeastern University is a dynamic, not-for profit independent institution dedicated to providing high-quality education programs of distinction from preschool through the professional and doctoral levels, as well as service to the community. Nova Southeastern University prepares students for lifelong learning and leadership roles in business and the professions. It offers academic programs at times convenient to students, employing innovative delivery systems and rich learning resources on campus and at distant sites. The university fosters inquiry, research, and creative professional activity, by uniting faculty and students in acquiring and applying knowledge in clinical, community, and professional settings.

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NSU Law Center's mission is to provide our students with the skills they need to practice effectively in our vibrant South Florida community or elsewhere in the global community. The faculty, a diverse group of teacher-scholars with a wide range of backgrounds, is committed to producing highly qualified and compassionate practicing attorneys who reflect the diversity of the communities they serve. Our curriculum stresses practical skills and the integration of technology with the law, so that our students embark on their law careers prepared for the real-world challenges of modern legal practice.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special appreciation is extended to:

Elaine Poff, Carol Stern, and Linda Lahey for coordination of commencement
Thelma M. Sampedro for coordination of commencement and commencement program
Nationwide Interpreter Resource, Inc. for sign language interpretation
Nova Books' staff
Nova Southeastern University's Physical Plant Staff and Support Staff
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The orchestra for providing the beautiful music before and during the ceremony
Bob Knight Photography

NOTE

The appearance of a name on this program should not be interpreted as evidence of graduation. The student's permanent record, on file in the Office of the University Registrar, remains the official testimony of the possession of a Nova Southeastern University degree.

A CD-ROM commemorating today's events will be mailed to each graduate.

Mace

During the Middle Ages, the mace was an effective weapon in battle and also was displayed as a symbol to command order during royal gatherings, religious ceremonies, and university classes. As newer and more powerful military arms were created, however, the mace progressed into a symbol of authority and today is frequently used to lead religious and academic processions.

The mace was originally a wooden staff carried by royal messengers as a symbol to preserve order and usher royal functions. The early wooden staff of such royal messengers or lead ushers of ceremonial processions was transformed in the 14th century, into an elaborate sterling silver mace. Eventually, in the 15th century, it evolved into a symbol of academic excellence and dignity.

The Nova Southeastern University Mace

Before its merger in 1994 with Southeastern University of the Health Sciences, Nova University's mace bore a sterling silver "nova star," symbolizing the university's name and mission. Symbolically, Nova University's "nova star" burned brightly, providing educational enlightenment to the world. Today, a new sterling silver mace highlights the past, present, and future through the inclusion of the original "nova star," representing the university's past, surrounding the NSU seal. When not in official use, the mace is displayed in the rotunda of the William and Norma Horvitz Administration Building.

In Latin, *nova* means new or innovative. Nova Southeastern University was created to be an innovative educational institution—to take the best of traditional education from the past and mold it to fit the needs of students for today and tomorrow.

